

Applicants thank Examiner Kim for extending the courtesy of a telephonic interview on August 28, 2003, to discuss the pending restriction requirement with their undersigned representative. Two issues were discussed. First, Applicants wished to clarify that although the method of claims 41, 42, 44, 45, and 49 (Group II) requires administration of a compound of formula II to a nerve cell, that nerve cell may be in an animal. Thus, Groups I and II do not necessarily differ in the route of administration. (See Office Action, page 2). Applicants understand that Examiner Kim agrees that this is the case. Second, Applicants indicated that, in their opinion, claim 1 should be included in both Group I and Group II because that claim encompasses both methods of treating a neurological activity in an animal and methods for stimulating neurite outgrowth by a nerve cell in an animal. Applicants understand that Examiner Kim agrees to amend the restriction requirement to add claim 1 to Group II.

Based on these understandings, Applicants elect to prosecute Group II, claims 1, 41, 42, 44, 45, and 49, without traverse. Applicants affirm their election of 3-(3-pyridyl)-1-propyl (2S)-1-(3,3-dimethyl-1,2-dioxopentyl)-2-pyrrolidinecarboxylate (Example 24) with traverse for the reasons of record in the Response to Restriction Requirement and Amendment filed April 28, 2003. All of the claims in Group II read on this species.

Applicants believe that this application is in condition for examination on the merits. Applicants request the favor of an interview to discuss claimed subject matter that they believe interferes with certain claims in U.S. Patent No. 6,124,328, as indicated in the Transmittal Letter dated June 5, 2001, at the Examiner's convenience.

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Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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